

THE HAWAIIAN STAR

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REPUBLIC OR DEMOCRACY?

If the progressive movement, so-called, is to have its way, it is hard to see what will become of the institutions of the republic over which the people have been so proud for five generations and so confident of their strength and safety. We now have a representative government. It is one which avoids the dictatorship of a strong man on the one hand and the fables of mob caprice on the other; and which compels deliberation at every step in the choice of temporary rulers or agents of popular rule, and an independent judiciary to keep the balance true. This system of representative government has stood gigantic tests, including that of civil war; and it has produced a growth in strength and prosperity in one century, which has culminated in more of both than any monarchy has built up in five hundred years. And now it is calmly proposed in the name of patriotism, to overturn it all by socialist experiments. Instead of selected conventions to nominate and deliberative legislatures to enact, there is proposed a convention to register the capricious will of hasty primaries, and a legislature whose powers may be superseded by the majority man with a rubber stamp in a voting booth, with two minutes given him to unmake old laws or make new ones. Instead of a thoughtful and impartial judiciary we may have one which may be recalled or the decisions of which may be reversed by a voting proletariat; hence judges, who want to retain employment, will be tempted to trim their sails to every wind of caprice and to misinterpret the constitution to keep the fickle favor of the mob. Under such a system the republic may easily go by default and a democracy grow up which will tempt the same fate that has visited all democracies from the day of the Achæan League, to the downfall of that French democracy which invoked the Terror and finally accepted the rule of Napoleon as a means of escape from it.

"Back to the people," is the plausible cry of these innovators, but if we had always gone back to the people directly, Washington would have been degraded in his second presidency to help Citizen Genet embroil this country with England while at peace with her; the people of half the States might have foregone the war of 1812 after it had been declared; Lincoln would have been repudiated after the failure of several northern campaigns; McKinley would have been voted down for not opening the war with Spain before the country was ready for it; and a war with Japan might have been declared off-hand. That is what comes of going back to the people without the intervention exercised between the thoughtless mob and its goal, by our wise system of checks and balances.

Progressiveness, so-called, has no known limitations. One cannot tell how far into socialism it might go. Oregon has a new proposition to make, involving, it is true, less widespread voting, but concentrating a state-wide recall by a simplified recall system of the appointive power. Where the Governor even appoints county officers, his recall would work a general change. But here is the detailed proposition as it comes from Oregon's People's Power League:

Cabinet system of government for the state with a state business manager on big salary to take general charge. Governor and state auditor the only state officers to be elected by the people, others being appointed by the governor. Sheriffs and district attorneys to be appointed by the governor.

Board of three "directors" to rule in county government and employ a county business manager, the latter to appoint other county officers.

State senate to be abolished. Sixty members of legislature to be elected by proportional representation by the state at large. Members of the legislature to hold power on roll call in voting in proportion to the vote they received at the election. Governor and defeated candidate for governor to be ex-officio members of legislature and hold large voting power therein. Entire legislature may be recalled and activities suspended pending the recall vote.

This concentrates the business of subverting the old system, and if it differs in mode it does not differ in kind from the subversion plans elsewhere in the domain of socialist insurgency.

To stand by the republic becomes thus a call of patriotism. It is common fealty to the republic that Washington and Jefferson, Hamilton and Adams left us; but to go the other way is to accept the advice of the Cummins and the La Follettes as that of wise men; and to lay the republic itself as a burnt offering on the altar of socialism.

The New Gospel of War

General Bernhardt, a German soldier of high professional and literary repute, is preaching to his countrymen a new gospel of war. Those who think with General Bernhardt are only too likely, we fear, to dismiss all unfavorable criticism abroad as natural but of no account, like the criticism that might be passed upon the harrow by the toad. But it is not, we hope, in vain to suggest to the greater part of the German nation that the indignation which General Bernhardt's ideas must inevitably evoke in many English minds is not necessarily prompted by any antagonism to the patriotic inspiration which makes him believe in his own race. It was a great German thinker who said that the tragedy of history lies in the conflict between right and right, not in the conflict between right and wrong. Every nation worthy of the name has in it some ingrained conviction that it is "chosen of the Lord." Patriotic literature in every language is full of that assumption, and patriotic poetry—we need only recall Mr. Rudyard Kipling's "Recessional"—has no more potent method of appeal. As individual peoples we believe in our distinctive institutions, our intellectual and moral atmosphere, our social organization, our general way of life, above all, in our own tongue. To believe in these is to desire in some measure that they may spread and prevail, at least amongst the more virile peoples who divide the ordering of the world; and the British peoples, whose virility in this respect has built itself so many citadels in different parts of the globe, should be the last to criticize a similar ambition in another race.

Were General Bernhardt's argument confined within these limits, it would, we think, be unexceptionable, though many might regret the spirit in which it was urged. But it is a long step further to contend, as he appears to do, that any war must necessarily be right, and no deceit immoral, even in time of peace, which may be called for in the interest of war. Thus regarded, war is not an evil to be avoided, but a good to be pursued; it is not the last extreme of statesmanship, but the breath of its nostrils and the blood in its veins. Were General Bernhardt not a writer of authority and power, we should hesitate to suggest that his views are shared by any large section of his countrymen; but General Bernhardt is widely read, and he is only one of many writers who, with more or less ability, adorn a similar theory. It is impossible that such arguments should be widely followed in any country without to some extent prejudicing the mental attitude of its people towards other powers, and General Bernhardt's efforts make it easier to realize why so many Germans should have credited this country last autumn with treacherous and sinister designs. A belief in the destinies of his own people should make no patriot indifferent to the general conscience of his time, and patriots who urge such indifference as the secret of national strength must not be surprised to see their country's statesmanship an object of increasing suspicion to other powers.—London Times.

The "Pure Democracy" Delusion

Government which comprises the initiative, referendum and recall of officials and of judicial decisions is government by impulse and caprice. Rome's plebiscitum was the initiative in its essential form, while the recall is the ostracism of Athens under a new name. Both worked badly and were discarded. Under modern conditions and in a great nation like the United States they would work worse than they did in the countries in which they were invented.

In a crude but effective way the initiative and recall had their little

THE CANDIDATE

By WALT MASON.

I stand for all that's good and pure and this, our country, can't endure if you should turn me down; beneath my coat and vest and things I have a handsome pair of wings, and in my grip a crown. Unless you choose me as your guide you're pretty sure to wander wide in morass, fen and swamp; but if you choose me for your chief I'll lead you from this gloom and grief to splendor and to pomp. All other candidates who beg your votes and try to pull your leg are wolves in sheep's array; on Virtue I have placed my brand; True Worth is eating from my hand, as horses eat their hay. I am the People's only friend; if I'm defeated there's an end to all their earthly hopes; the government our fathers built will get the cleaver to the hilt, and tumble through the ropes. If I'm defeated anarchy will sweep this country of the free, our homesteads be laid waste; the husbandman will wade in blood, the clergyman throw gobs of mud, the printer eat his paste. The rivers all will backward flow, the garden sass refuse to grow, there'll be no prunes or figs; the blighted trees will wilt and die, the cows and wells will all go dry, the hens will hatch out pigs. To dodge this dire catastrophe you'll simply have to vote for me and help along my boom, for I alone can be the shield, the sword and backler you must wield to shun this Copyright, 1912, by George Matthew Adams. WALT MASON.

hour on the stage during the French Revolution, and the experience in those countries and periods was not such as would commend them to Americans of the twentieth century. The recall of judges and judicial decisions would bring a reign of demagoguery and of mob rule which would disorganize our whole judicial machinery, and reduce our orderly system of law enforcement to the level of the jurisprudence of the sand lots in the days of Denis Kearney.

The framers of the American Constitution had the initiative and recall, under other names, before them when they were engaged in fashioning their charter, and they rejected them. As between "pure democracy" and representative republicanism, they selected the latter, and their fellow countrymen have applauded their courage and wisdom.—Frank Leslie's.

LITTLE INTERVIEWS

A. H. FORD—I am having the lot over the Public Service Association cleaned up. If the Press club likes it, it can pay for it; if not, we will do so.

BAGGAGE INSPECTOR CARTER—I am feeling a little better but dengue leaves you very weak. About the end of next week I shall be feeling myself again.

GERRIT WILDER—Here are some lychee nuts from a nine-year-old tree. Aren't they fine? Don't tell me that twenty-five years are needed to make lychee trees bear.

CAPTAIN BERGER—I have been a citizen as well as bandmaster. My money has been spent in Honolulu and here I have brought up and educated my children.

DR. J. S. B. PRATT—A clean-up day for Honolulu is just what the city needs to give some of the citizens a jolt and enable them to show others whether they have any public spirit or not.

GEORGE INGLE—I boxed five rounds with Young Caples last night. It was the first time that I ever had the gloves on with him and he certainly has an awful wallop. I believe that he could beat de Mello.

JOHNNY MARTIN—I used to play cricket when I was a boy and was very fond of the game. I remember that I hit a ball once which broke a pane of glass in an 'ot 'ouse, and 'ad to pay three-and-six-pence of the damage I done.

DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL SMITH—We are at present straightening out the Frog Lane tangle which has occupied the attention of the legal department for some time, but it will not be long now before everything is arranged to the satisfaction of all parties.

LANI MAGOON—The Hughes Come

dy Company will be here in a couple of weeks and will play a limited engagement in Honolulu. The company has made good in China, Japan and the Philippines, and that they will be warmly welcomed back here is a certainty.

D. L. WITHINGTON—In California 658,015 voters were registered for the primaries. Roosevelt got but 135,000. In Massachusetts, where Roosevelt got 200,000 votes when he ran for president, he only got \$1,000 in the recent tests. The vote in the other States was in the same proportion.

EBEN LOW—All this talk you hear about having the board of supervisors appointed by the Chamber of Commerce and the Merchants' Association does not sound good to me. Look at the commissions that have already been appointed, they are failures when compared to our board.

DR. MINNETTE BURNHAM—I was charged at an error which was made in the Star last night and by which I was made to compliment the management of the Liberty Theater on the showing made by the Juvenile Bostonians. What I desired to commend in my letter was Homer's Odyssey and not the leg show. Kindly correct.

E. L. HUTCHINSON—It is often asked why white women complain of this climate and feel that a trip to the north is required after a lengthy residence here. A new theory has been advanced, one that is apparently borne out by the excellent health enjoyed by some of our lady residents. It is that those people who live in stone houses are vigorous, ruddy and enjoy the best of health. Per contra those who reside in so-called wooden or frame houses are the persons who must seek a colder climate at intervals.

"Under The Coconut Tree"

By H. M. Ayres.

In answer to numerous inquiries we take pleasure in stating that the lady's smoking-jacket raffled at the May Fete last Saturday night was won by Chris Lewis.

It's fine weather, as the judge remarked when he imposed a penalty of \$25 and costs for some offense or other.

California has certainly got a firm friend in S. T. Starrett.

There are three sexes: Male sex, female sex and insects.

How's this for an ad? HONOLULU IS GROWING.

"This establishment will move soon to larger quarters at the corner of King and Punchbowl streets." Is Honolulu a cemetery?

Dimond & Co. ought to have a crack erjack baseball team. (Betcher can't tell why!)

The rhinoceros beetle is the latest coconut pest to be discovered. We await with impatience the advent in the case of the hippopotamus-hopper.

Editor—"It seems to me that there were unlimited possibilities in that fish story which came across from Hana the other day.

Reporter—Yes, indeed. I am surprised that the miraculous draught of fishes wasn't reported to be infected with the fruitfly.

Editor—Quite probable, if the fish were flying-fish.

Reporter—I still live in hopes of hearing that there has been a storm in Hana which blew the roofs off all the houses and that the latter were re-shingled with dried fish. By the way what's the matter with hanging a few of those Hana fish on the Coconut Tree to dry?

Editor—Nothing at all the matter, that's a dry place.

Reporter—So it the writer. And then the band played that tune-f selection, "The Hint That Didn't Took."

On a King street car last Saturday: Conductor to old lady—Fare, m'am! Old Lady—Yes, young man; please put me off there.

They don't sell false teeth by the alker. (Ouch, my poor feelings!)

A seasoned player is naturally expected to put up a peppery game.

Wonder what those Shriners shaved their whiskers off for, anyway? Don't all speak at once, ladies!

The local volcanoes are tuning up

and may be expected to grow more and more active as the Fourth of July with its pleasure-seeking excursions approaches.

The performances at the Liberty go so smoothly that the company might well be referred to as the Juven-ol Bostonians.

The advertisement for a lost brooch, with "a duck in a diamond setting," somehow reminds us of Farmer Weed-on's Crystal White Orpington settings at \$2.00 per.

Honolulu Twenty-Five Years Hence. Jim Murray dropped a sand-bag from his aeroplane last Monday and killed a foreigners named Franconi. Jim says it has proved a good ad. for him as a candidate for chief-of-police.

A fruitfly which had a spread of wings three feet and four inches was shot last Tuesday by the afship agent at Makapuu Point. It was carrying off a soursop belonging to Harry Mills Jr., Bradstreet's agent for the windward wards.

The ladies of Honolulu have finally determined to put a stop to the billboard and aeroboard nuisances. It was calculated yesterday that there are 380 miles of billboards in Honolulu and that over 70 aeroplanes were out last Sunday displaying church announcements. The ladies are up in arms—anybody's—and say that the nuisance must stop.

The latest news from Washington Elite Bldg. Hotel St.

is that the special commissioner to investigate the Governor will not start on Tuesday. This is the seventh time that the visit has been postponed and the Governor says that his uncle, who

(Continued on Page Five.)



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Kaimuki, 11th Ave, 2 B. R.	35.00
Kalia Road, 2 B. R.	35.00
Gulick Ave, 2 B. R.	35.00
Kinaiu St, 3 B. R.	40.00
Waikiki, 2 B. R.	35.00
Kahala Beach, 1 B. R. and sleeping porch	105.00
Unfurnished—	
Waipio, 3 B. R.	\$12.00
Wilder Ave, 6 B. R.	50.00
Wilder Ave, 4 B. R.	30.00
Pua Lane, 2 B. R.	17.00
Fort St, 2 B. R.	22.00
King St, 2 B. R.	22.00
King St, 2 B. R.	20.00
Alewa Heights, 2 B. R.	20.00
Lunalilo St, 3 B. R.	22.50
Wai'alae Rd, 2 B. R.	30.00
Pikoi St, 1 B. R.	12.00
Kaimuki, Maunaloa Ave, 2 B. R.	27.50
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